

Tempe Public Art



Kevin Berry

5th Street Traffic Calming, 2001

Sunburst: exposed aggregate concrete, brick and pavers
Walls: river rock gabion
Street banners: steel
Benches: concrete

Location:

Riverside-Sunset Neighborhood along 5th Street

Artist Website: www.SouthMountainStudios.com

Photo: Craig Smith

Description: In an effort to enhance community identity, slow through-traffic, and visually unify the Sunset-Riverside neighborhood, artist Kevin Berry designed several elements that integrate with the streetscape along 5th Street. An entry feature made of concrete pavers and aggregate is set into the intersection of Priest Drive and 5th Street, incorporating a fan-sunburst effect and a wave pattern. Similarly, a 40-foot diameter starburst-pattern is set into the intersection of 5th Street and Hardy Drive. Unique paving patterns adorn sidewalks and crosswalks throughout the neighborhood, and naturally rusting steel panels with the neighborhood logo decorate the street light fixtures. Jaycee Park features safety walls composed of woven wire mesh on top of a concrete wave-pattern, and semicircular concrete benches encasing trees. The artwork designed for the 5th Street Project conceptually relates to the neighborhood's close proximity to the Salt River, the Rio Salado Project, and the community's name, Riverside-Sunset.

Artist biography: Kevin Berry received his BFA in sculpture in 1983 from the Kansas City Art Institute, and received his MFA in sculpture from Arizona State University in 1987. Berry has received numerous public art commissions including transit shelters near Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport, "Tributary Wall" and Hummingbird Sanctuary Park, in Scottsdale, and "Staring into the Sun" at the Chandler Public Library. In 1995 Berry was awarded the Artist of the Year Award by the Scottsdale Center for the Arts. Berry actively exhibits his work in group and solo shows and his artwork belongs to many private and public collections.

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